

### **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case, comprising:

- a steel sheet; and
- a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed on its surface which defines the inner surface of the battery case,

wherein

the nickel-phosphorous alloy plating layer contains 5 to 70% by weight of cobalt, and

the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer has a thickness in the range of 0.1 to 2  $\mu\text{m}$ .

2. **(Currently Amended)** A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case, according to claim 1, further comprising a nickel plating layer formed between the steel sheet and ~~a~~the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer;

wherein

a thickness of the nickel plating layer is in the range of 0.5 to 3 $\mu$ m  
on a surface supposed to define the inner surface of the battery case.

3. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case according to claim 1, further comprising an iron-nickel diffusion layer formed between the steel sheet and the nickel- phosphorus alloy plating layer.

4. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case according to claim 1, further comprising an iron-nickel diffusion layer and a nickel layer formed between the steel sheet and the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer; wherein the iron-nickel diffusion layer is formed as an under layer, and the nickel layer is formed as an intermediate layer.

5. **(Cancelled)**

6. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case as set forth in claim 1, wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer has a phosphorus content in the range of 1 to 12% by weight.

7. **(Cancelled)**

8. **(Previously Presented)** A battery case comprising a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed on its inner surface, wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer contains 5 to 70% by weight of cobalt.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A battery case ~~characterized by~~  
~~having according to claim 8, further comprising~~ a nickel plating layer formed as  
an under layer and ~~a wherein the~~ nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer ~~formed~~  
~~asforms~~ a top layer on its inner surface.

10. **(Currently Amended)** A battery case according to claim 8,  
further comprising an iron-nickel diffusion layer formed as an under layer and  
a wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed as a top layer on its  
inner surface.

11. **(Currently Amended)** A battery case according to claim 8,  
further comprising an iron-nickel diffusion layer formed as an under layer, a  
nickel layer as an intermediate layer ~~and a wherein the~~ nickel-phosphorus alloy  
plating layer forms ~~formed as a~~ top layer on its inner surface.

12. **(Previously Presented)** A battery case as set forth in claim  
8, wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer has a phosphorus content in  
the range of 1 to 12% by weight.

13. **(Cancelled)**

14. **(Currently Amended)** A battery case manufactured as set  
~~forth in claim 8, and formed by a deep drawing, DI or DTR method~~ of the surface-  
treated steel sheet according to claim 1.

15. **(Currently Amended)** A battery comprising the  
~~characterized by employing a battery case as set forth in claim 8, with cathode~~  
~~active materials packed in the battery case and anode active materials packed in~~  
~~the battery case and packing its interior with cathode and anode active~~  
materials.

16. **(New)** A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case according  
to claim 1, further comprising a nickel plating layer over the steel sheet on the  
side supposed to define outer surface of the battery case, wherein a thickness of  
outer surface of the battery case, wherein a thickness of the nickel plating layer is  
in the range of 0.2 to 3 $\mu$ m.